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CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP			FERGUSON, MICHAEL P	
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			3679	

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/812,342	SUH, DONG TACK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael P. Ferguson	3679	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 18, 19 and 38 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-17, 20, 21, 23-32, 34-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 13,15,16,20,21 and 24-31 and 34-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Konig & Meyer (DE 36 04 497).

As to claim 13, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole **1**, having a first hole;

a second rod or pole **9**, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body **11**, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;

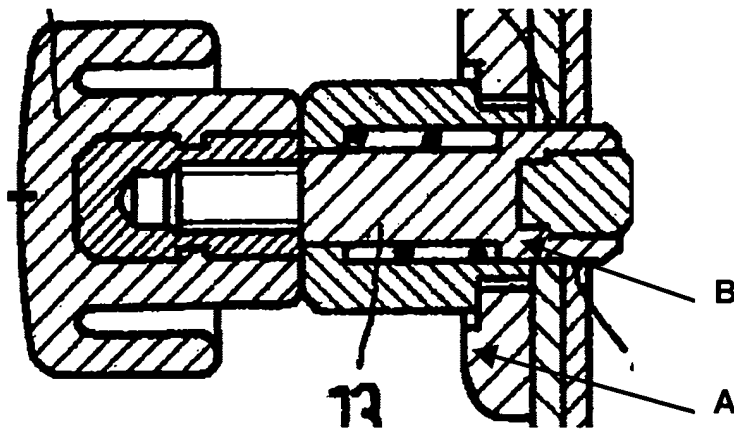
a pull pin body **A** (Figure 3 reprinted below with annotations) integral with the main body and extending radially outward from the central hollow, the pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

a pull pin **13** slidably disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the central hollow through the first hole to a second position outside of the central hollow, the pull pin having a circumferential stop **B**;

a pull pin plug **30** fit into the space of the pin body **A**, the pull pin plug having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin; and

a biasing member **18** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole;

wherein the biasing member is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop **B** and the pull pin plug, and wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned (of a length) to prevent the pull pin from passing completely through the first hole in the first position (Figures 1-3).



As to claim 15, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the first rod or pole **1** comprises an end and the main body **11** extends around the end of the first rod or pole (Figure 3).

As to claim 16, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the circumferential stop **B** is dimensioned (of a length) to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position (Figure 3).

Art Unit: 3679

As to claim 20, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole **1**, having a first hole;

a second rod or pole **9**, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body **11** having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;

a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, the pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

a pull pin **13** disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole; and

a biasing member **18** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole,

wherein the main body is fixed against movement (via friction/press-fit between main body **11** and first rod **1**) along the first rod or pole when the pull pin is in the second position (Figures 1-3).

As to claim 21, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the first rod or pole **1** comprises a third notch or hole **20** and wherein the main body **11** is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole in the second position by (abutment with) a boss **21** extending between the main body and the first rod or pole (Figure 2).

Art Unit: 3679

As to claim 24, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body **11** extends around an end of the first rod or pole **1** (Figure 3).

As to claim 25, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin body **A** is integral with the main body **11** (Figure 3).

As to claim 26, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly comprising a pull pin plug **30** having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin **13**; and

a circumferential stop on the pull pin dimensioned (of a length) to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position,

wherein the biasing member **18** is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug **30** (Figure 3).

As to claim 27, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin plug **30** is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body **A** (Figure 3).

As to claim 28, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole **1**, having a first hole;

a second rod or pole **9**, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body **11**, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;

a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, the pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

Art Unit: 3679

a pull pin **13** disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole, the pull pin having a circumferential stop;

a pull pin plug **30** having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin;
and

a biasing member **18** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole;

wherein the biasing member is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug, and wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned (of a length) to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position (Figures 1-3).

As to claim 29, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin plug **30** is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body **A** (Figure 3).

As to claim 30, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body **11** is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole **1** when the pull pin **13** is in the second position (Figure 3).

As to claim 31, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body **11** is fixed against movement (via friction/press-fit between main body **11** and first rod **1**) along the first rod or pole **1** by (abutment with) a boss **21** extending between the main body and the first rod or pole (Figure 2).

Art Unit: 3679

As to claim 34, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the first rod or pole **1** extends vertically above (a lower end portion of) the second rod or pole **9** (Figure 3).

As to claim 35, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body **11** extends around an end of the first rod or pole **1** (Figure 3).

As to claim 36, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin body **A** is integral with the main body **11** (Figure 3).

As to claim 37, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole **1**, having a first hole and an end;

a second rod or pole **9**, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body **11**, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole, the main body extending around and abutting (via intermediate elements **22,29**) the end of the first rod or pole;

a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, the pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

a pull pin **13** disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole; and

Art Unit: 3679

a biasing member **18** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole (Figures 1- 3).

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 13-16, 20, 24-30 and 34-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takayama (US 6,508,262).

As to claim 13, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole **11,12**, having a first hole;

a second rod or pole **10**, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body **5**, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;

a pull pin body integral with the main body and extending radially outward from the central hollow, the pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

Art Unit: 3679

a pull pin **30** slidably disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the central hollow through the first hole to a second position outside of the central hollow, the pull pin having a circumferential stop;

a pull pin plug fit into the space of the pin body, the pull pin plug having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin; and

a biasing member **31** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole **11,12** and the second rod or pole **10** when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole;

wherein the biasing member is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug, and wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent the pull pin from passing completely through the first hole in the first position (Figures 1,3 and 4).

As to claim 14, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin **30** comprises a circumferential tongue **34**, wherein the pull pin plug comprises a radial groove **35** (Figure 5), wherein, the pull pin has a first engageable position in which the circumferential tongue is movable in the radial groove, and a second, disengaged position, wherein the pull pin is pulled against a biasing force of the biasing member **31** to come out of the radial groove and rotated so that the circumferential tongue is biased against the pull pin plug (Figures 3 and 4).

As to claim 15, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the first rod or pole **11** comprises an end and the main body **5** extends around the end of the first rod or pole (Figure 3).

As to claim 16, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin **30** from extending into the central hollow in the first position (Figure 3).

As to claim 20, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole **11,12**, having a first hole;

a second rod or pole **10**, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body **5** having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;

a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, the pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

a pull pin **30** disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole; and

a biasing member **31** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole **11,12** and the second rod or pole **10** when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole,

wherein the main body is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole when the pull pin is in the second position (Figures 1,3 and 4).

As to claim 24, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body **5** extends around an end of the first rod or pole **11,12** (Figure 3).

Art Unit: 3679

As to claim 25, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin body is integral with the main body **5** (Figure 3).

As to claim 26, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly comprising a pull pin plug having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin **30**; and

a circumferential stop on the pull pin dimensioned to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position,

wherein the biasing member **31** is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug (Figure 3).

As to claim 27, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin plug is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body (Figure 3).

As to claim 28, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole **11**, having a first hole;

a second rod or pole **10**, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body **5,12**, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;

a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, the pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

a pull pin **30** disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole, the pull pin having a circumferential stop;

a pull pin plug having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin; and

a biasing member **31** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole **11,12** and the second rod or pole **10** when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole;

wherein the biasing member is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug, and wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position (Figures 1,3 and 4).

As to claim 29, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin plug is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body (Figure 3).

As to claim 30, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body **5,12** is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole **11** when the pull pin **30** is in the second position (Figure 3).

As to claim 34, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the first rod or pole **11** extends vertically above (a lower end portion of) the second rod or pole **10** (Figure 3).

As to claim 35, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body **5,12** extends around an end of the first rod or pole **11** (Figure 3).

Art Unit: 3679

As to claim 36, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin body is integral with the main body **5** (Figure 3).

As to claim 37, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole **11**, having a first hole and an end;

a second rod or pole **10**, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body **5,12**, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole, the main body extending around the end of the first rod or pole;

a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, the pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

a pull pin **30** disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole; and

a biasing member **31** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole **11,12** and the second rod or pole **10** when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole (Figures 1,3 and 4).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-12,18,19 and 38 are allowed.

6. Claims 17,22,23,32 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 3679

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As to claim 17, Konig & Meyer discloses the claimed pull pin assembly with exception of wherein the main body comprises a resilient tab having a boss thereon extending into the central hollow to engage a second notch or hole of the first rod or pole.

As to claim 22, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly with exception of wherein the boss is formed on a resilient tab on the main body, the boss extending into the central hollow to engage the third notch or hole of the first rod or pole.

As to claim 32, Konig & Meyer discloses pull pin assembly wherein the first rod or pole comprises a third notch or hole and wherein the boss is formed on a resilient tab, the boss extending into the central hollow to engage the third notch or hole of the first rod or pole.

There is no teaching or suggestion, absent the applicant's own disclosure, for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the pull pin assembly as disclosed by Konig & Meyer to have the above mentioned elemental features.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed January 23, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As to claim 13, Attorney argues that:

Konig & Meyer does not disclose a pull pin assembly comprising a *pull pin plug fit into the space of the pin body*.

Examiner disagrees. As to claim 13, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly comprising a pull pin plug **30** fit into the space of the pin body **A** (Figure 3).

As to claims 13,16,26 and 28, Attorney argues that:

Konig & Meyer does not disclose a pull pin assembly *wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position.*

Examiner disagrees. As to claims 13,16,26 and 28, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the circumferential stop **B** is dimensioned (of a length) to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position (Figure 3).

As to claims 20 and 30, Attorney argues that:

Konig & Meyer does not disclose a pull pin assembly *wherein the main body is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole when the pull pin is in the second position.*

Examiner disagrees. As to claims 20 and 30, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body is fixed against movement (via friction/press-fit between main body **11** and first rod **1**) along the first rod or pole when the pull pin is in the second position (Figures 1-3).

As to claims 21 and 31, Attorney argues that:

Konig & Meyer does not disclose a pull pin assembly *wherein the main body is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole in the second position by a boss extending between the main body and the first rod or pole.*

Art Unit: 3679

Examiner disagrees. As to claims 21 and 31, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the main body **11** is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole in the second position by (abutment with) a boss **21** extending between the main body and the first rod or pole (Figure 2).

As to claim 37, Attorney argues that:

Konig & Meyer does not disclose a pull pin assembly comprising *a main body extending around and abutting the end of the first rod or pole.*

Examiner disagrees. As to claim 37, Konig & Meyer discloses a pull pin assembly comprising a main body **11** extending around and abutting (via intermediate elements **22,29**) the end of the first rod or pole (Figure 3).

As to claims 13,20,28 and 37, Attorney argues that:

Takayama does not disclose a pull pin assembly comprising *a biasing member biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole.*

Examiner disagrees. As to claims 13,20,28 and 37, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly comprising a biasing member **31** biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole **11,12** and the second rod or pole **10** when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole (Figure 3).

As to claim 14, Attorney argues that:

Takayama does not disclose a pull pin assembly *wherein the pull pin plug comprises a radial groove.*

Examiner disagrees. As to claim 14, Takayama discloses a pull pin assembly wherein the pull pin plug comprises a radial groove 35 (Figure 5).

Conclusion

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P. Ferguson whose telephone number is (571)272-7081. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571)272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3679

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


MPF
04/28/06



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